

SITUATION REPORT NO. 22
INCIDENT NO. 2001 - 005
DATE: May 29, 2001 TIME: 2:00 p.m.

TO: Governor John Hoeven
State Capitol
Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Spring Flooding.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: Devils Lake at Creel Bay measured about 1,447.7 feet today. Engineers for the N.D. State Water Commission (SWC) said the rise or fall of Devils Lake depends on evaporation and precipitation much more than flows to Stump Lake. Water will continue to flow between the two lakes until Devils Lake drops below 1,446.5 feet. SWC engineers also indicated that Devils Lake is nearing its peak level for this year. The Long-Range Probabilistic Outlook, issued May 23 by the National Weather Service (NWS), places the 50 percent predicted crest level at 1,448 feet and the 90 percent predicted crest level at 1,447.8 feet. The outlook is valid from May 27 until September 14. Since the end of snowmelt runoff, the lake has risen to its new pool elevation of 1,447.7 feet. The previous record level of 1,447.1 feet was set in 1999.

In the Devils Lake area, last week's wind gusts of 25 to 40 miles per hour (mph) caused severe erosion to roads and riprap and washed debris onto roadways, creating hazards for motorists.

The N.D. Department of Transportation (DOT) reported five sites where floodwaters are threatening highways and one road closure on N.D. Highway 19. These sites include:

Devils Lake District

- N.D. Highway 19, nine miles east of its junction with U.S. Highway 281, where the road is closed for the remainder of the construction season and a detour route is signed;
- N.D. Highway 200, mile marker 257, west of Chaseley, which is open to one-lane of traffic due to flooding;
- N.D. Highway 57, from Fort Totten to its junction with N.D. Highway 20, where water and debris are on the highway.

Minot District

- N.D. Highway 14 at mile marker 69, 4 ½ miles south of Anamoose, where water is on the northbound lane;

Bismarck District

- N.D. Highway 3, 10 miles north of Tuttle, where water is on the edge of the highway (site of a temporary gravel grade raise); and
- N.D. Highway 200, mile markers 230 and 231, three miles east of McClusky, where water is on the edge of the highway (site of a temporary gravel grade raise).

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: No change from previous reports.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: Governor Hoeven received word on May 28 that President Bush has ordered the release of federal disaster funds to help communities in eastern and central North Dakota recover from damages caused by this year's flooding, severe storms and ground saturation. The incident period began March 1, 2001, and continues. The declaration, FEMA-1376-DR-ND, makes Public Assistance available to the following counties and tribal lands: Barnes, Benson, Bottineau, Cass, Cavalier, Dickey, Eddy, Foster, Grand Forks, Griggs, Kidder, McHenry, McLean, Nelson, Pembina, Pierce, Ramsey, Ransom, Richland, Rolette, Sheridan, Steele, Stutsman, Towner, Traill, Walsh, Wells, Spirit Lake Nation, and Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. State and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations are eligible for federal funding to pay 75 percent of the approved cost of debris removal, emergency services related to the disaster, and repair or replacement of damaged public facilities, such as roads, building and utilities. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds are available to all counties in North Dakota. This cost-shared funding is for approved projects that reduce future disaster risks.

A federal-state Public Assistance coordinators' meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. June 6 at Fraine Barracks. On the following day, the first of three applicant briefings will be held at 1:00 p.m. in Valley City. Two other briefings will be held June 8, the first at 9:00 a.m. in Grafton, and at 2:30 p.m. in Harvey. An inspectors' meeting has been scheduled for June 12 at 9:00 a.m. in Bismarck.

Benson County road crews have constructed emergency grade raises to maintain safe travel conditions on inundated roads.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No additional requests have been received.

8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.

9. OTHER: Appropriate state and local emergency operations plans have been implemented.

Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director